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Eight trains to chug from Ashokapuram Station

Regular service to begin from Feb. 16

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2.	20623/20624 Mysuru - KSR Bengaluru City Malgudi Express
3.	12785/12786 Kacheguda - Mysuru Express
4.	12609/12610 MGR Chennai Central - Mysuru Express
5.	06525/06526 KSR Bengaluru - Mysuru MEMU
6.	06559/06560 KSR Bengaluru - Mysuru MEMU
7.	06255/06256 KSR Bengaluru - Mysuru MEMU
8.	06257/06258 KSR Bengaluru - Mysuru MEMU

Mysuru, Feb. 13 (PM&BCT)- The upgraded Ashokapuram Railway Station is set to begin operations for eight major trains, previously running from the Mysuru City Railway Station from Feb. 16. The proposal by the South Western Railway (SWR) Division has been approved by the Railway Ministry and the Railway Board.

Minister of State for Railways V. Somanna will show the green signal for the trains on Feb. 15 and the services will begin from the Ashokapuram Railway Station, the next day.

Ashokapuram Railway Station, which underwent a major upgrade costing Rs. 37.5 crore, now features five platforms, an expansion from its original three. A stabling line has also been added to accommodate train halts.

Prathap Simha's initiative

This Station's revamp took place during Prathap Simha's tenure as an MP. At the inauguration of the renovated station, Simha hinted that more train services would be added soon. On Mar. 4, 2024, the second entry gate and a new pedestrian foot-over-bridge were inaugurated at Ashokapuram Railway Yard.

(See TRAINS on page 7)

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IIT Madras

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Chemistry
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MALLIKARJUNA A
PHYSICS
IIT Kanpur

APPLICATION NO. STUDENT NAME	250310224312 TANMAY SANTOSH MANTRI	250310268942 ANUBHAV CHATTERJEE	250310364701 NANDAKISHAN K M
★★★ of IMSC			
Physics	99.8603164	99.7437713	99.02631437
Chemistry	99.8388876	95.2613612	94.4489094
Mathematics	99.3341217	99.2917903	97.6469933
Total	99.7785697	99.3522667	98.4928662

JEE 2025 PERCENTILE

Finance Minister tables new Income Tax Bill

Joint Parliamentary Committee report on Waqf (Amendment) Bill tabled; Opposition walks out

New Delhi, Feb. 13 (Agencies)- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented the new Income Tax Bill, 2025, in Lok Sabha this afternoon. The Bill aims to simplify tax laws, eliminate outdated provisions, and ease compliance.

Nirmala

The key highlight of the Income Tax Bill 2025 is that it will consolidate India's taxation laws and simplify them for taxpayers. The new tax code will remove several 'obsolete' sections of the existing Income Tax Act, reduce litigation, and improve compliance. The new Income Tax law will also simplify tax laws to make them more transparent and taxpayer-friendly.

If approved, it will replace the Income Tax Act of 1961 and come into effect on April 1, 2026.

(See TAX on page 7)

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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Thursday 13th February 2025

Abhishek Raghuram's Music Concert at Ganabharathi

Vid. Abhishek *Vid. Gokul* *Vid. Vijay* *Vid. Guruprasanna*

Mysuru, Feb. 13- A Classical Music Concert by Vid. Abhishek Raghuram has been organised in memory of R. Sundarachar and Saraswati Rao at Ganabharathi in Kuvempunagar on Feb. 14 at 6 pm. He will be accompanied by Vid. V.S. Gokul on violin, Vid. Vijay Natesan on mridanga and Vid. G. Guruprasanna on kanjira.

Vid. Abhishek Raghuram is one of the most exceptional vocalists of the younger generation in Karnatak music. Born and raised in an environment steeped in rhythm and melody, he hails from a distinguished musical lineage. His grandfather and guru was the renowned mridanga maestro Vidwan Palghat Raghu, while his mother, Usha, belongs to the illustrious Lalgudi family.

Trained in mridanga by his grandfather and in vocal music by his mother and Vidwan P.S. Narayanaswamy, Abhishek Raghuram has performed on prestigious stages across India and abroad. He is also a skilled mridanga player and has presented several jugalbandi concerts, experimenting with different aspects of music.

He has been the recipient of numerous prestigious honours, including the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar from the Sangeet Natak Akademi, the Sangeetha Choodamani from Krishna Gana Sabha and awards from the Madras Music Academy, among others.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

IMPORTANCE OF RITUALS: ***Like a parent raising a child with an eye on a prosperous future, God too has an abiding interest in the spiritual well being of a person, right from birth. Leading a virtuous life, it is possible to reach Him: all one has to do is to surrender to him entirely to attain moksha. To that end, God has been guiding man from time immemorial in many ways: by manifestations, by way of scriptural texts and also as resident deity in temples. Additionally, he has sent acharyas, preceptors and gurus, to guide humans, said Karunakaran Swami in a discourse.***

One may ask where does God dwell? He is present in Vaikuntam, but none of us can claim to have been there or recall such a darshan. God is within oneself, but we are so overwhelmed by *vasanas* ***(sensory gratifications) that we fail to engage with Him.***

Various gurus have shown how to connect with God in a structured, doable manner. They have advocated embracing daily rituals such as chanting His name, offering simple things such as flowers and fruits to Him every day, with total faith.

Sastras say it is imperative that one does three things. *'Jeevato vakya karana'* ***it says, meaning one should keep one's parents/ elders happy till their last breath. It also mandates*** *'Gayanam pinda dhanam'* ***(visit Gaya at least once and offer pinda at least once to one's dear departed.) Pundits recommend that the surviving family conduct the sraddham every year on the relevant tithi and not stop the practice once one has visited Gaya after the passing of one's loved ones. Mata, pita, guru, deivam is the four-step ladder to reaching God.*** *—In The Hindu*

NEWS SPARKLERS

The world's tallest water buffalo

Nakhon Ratchasima: Standing 6 feet and 0.8 inches tall from hoof to withers, this 3-year-old King Kong is the world's tallest water buffalo.

According to the Guinness World Records, his record-breaking height was apparent to farm owner Suchart Booncharoen pretty much from the moment he was born on Apr. 1, 2021. Suchart Booncharoen said that the animal's name is no lucky coincidence, as his potential to grow into a huge frame was obvious from birth. Still, despite his massive size, King Kong is a gentle giant who loves playing and being around people.

She said: "He is very obedient. He loves to play around; he loves to be scratched and run around with people. He is really friendly, and it's like having a big, powerful puppy on the farm."

Doctor under fire for giving his pet a scan at his hospital

Aosta: An Italian doctor is currently being investigated for using hospital equipment to diagnose his injured pet cat and then operating on her in order to save her life.

On the evening of Jan. 27, Gianluca Fanelli, head of the simple structure of Interventional Radiology and Neuroradiology at the Parini Hospital in Aosta, Italy, after taking his injured cat to a veterinarian and receiving a dire diagnosis, the radiologist took his feline, Athena, to his Hospital and put in the CT scanner to get an idea of the internal organ damage she had suffered. He then performed pneumothoracic surgery on her in the unit's angiography room in order to save her life.

When the news reached the management, an internal investigation was ordered. Depending on its findings, Fanelli could face charges of wasting public money and depriving patients of essential services. His case is currently being handled by the Aosta prosecutors.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Regular PAPSMEAR test (once in 3 years) is necessary for all women aged 21 to 65 years, who are sexually active. This test is for the detection of any precancerous condition in the mouth of the uterus(cervix) which is treatable.

By Dr. Amulya K.G., Consultant - Obstetrics and Gynaecology - Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Kannada debate, essay, classical music instrument competitions

Mysuru, Feb. 13- Sahitya Sangha 2024-25, M. Venkatakrishnaiah (Thathaiah) Anathalaya has organised inter-college 29th Kannada debate contest, 20th Kannada essay writing contest and third classical music instruments (percussion) competition in memory of *Lokaseva Niratha* V. Narayan Rao.

The essay writing contest has been organised on Feb. 16 at 9 am and percussion competition at 11 am at the premises of Sadvidya Educational Institutions, Narayana Shastry Road and debate competition on Feb. 23 at 10 am at Anathalaya.

The essay writing contest will be on the topic 'The role of Kumbha Mela in the survival of Sanatana Dharma.'

The debate will be conducted on the topic 'The present education system is the reason for rise in suicides among college students.'

Among two of the students, participating in the debate contest, one should speak for the topic and another against the topic.

All the participants should carry ID card and permission letter.

The winners of debate, essay writing and classical music instruments competitions will be awarded with a cash prize of Rs. 8,000 (first prize), Rs. 5,000 (second prize) and Rs. 3,000 (third prize).

The last date to enrol names for essay writing and classical music instruments competitions is Feb. 14 and debate competition is Feb. 21.

For further details, contact Prajwal Bhat on Mob: 95915-63181; Tejas Bharadwaj on Mob: 94826-98001 or Harshit on Mob: 74113-10460.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **117.62 feet**	Today's level **2,278.10 feet**	Today's level **2,836.98 feet**
Last year's level **91.26 feet**	Last year's level **2,271.42 feet**	Last year's level **2,831.40 feet**
Yesterday's level **117.94 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,278.29 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,836.96 feet**
Today's Inflow **144 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **77 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **154 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **4,413 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **800 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **100 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- *Black ants, which commonly refer to various species in the Lasius genus, can survive without food for approximately one to two weeks, depending on environmental conditions and the availability of moisture.*

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

The well-known criminal was pleading for mercy.

Judge: *Just what good have you done for the State?*

Criminal: *Well, I have kept the Police Department working busily all these years because of me.*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 86.84
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 108.50
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 23.64
1 Euro	= Rs. 90.62

VOICE OF THE READER

Thank you CMC, N'gud

Sir,

Apropos the news item ***'Street Vending Food Zone Opens at Nanjangud'*** (*Star of Mysore*, 6.2.2025), I welcome the City Municipal Council's (CMC) action — though delayed — in relocating countless roadside eateries that had flourished along the entire stretch from 10th to 15th Cross on the ever-busy Rashtrapathi Road to the nearby nala deck.

However, some still remain on the parallel Mahatma Gandhi Shatabdi (MGS) Road, particularly near 19th Cross, close to Hullahalli Circle on the national higway, which is perpetually jam-packed with vehicles from all directions. It would be prudent for the CMC to shift them as well, once and for all, to ease traffic congestion. I also appeal to the CMC to install signage boards at the entrance of every crossroad on both Rashtrapathi Road and MGS Road. These boards, which existed decades ago, have disappeared over time and need to be reinstated.

— N. Devarajan

Nanjangud
8.2.2025

Musical Night by Aakanksha

Shreya Ghoshal

Sonu Nigam

Mysuru, Feb. 13- The talented singers of Team Aakanksha are all set to give a spectacular performance in the honour of two of the most versatile playback singers of Indian Cinema — Shreya Ghoshal and Sonu Nigam.

The musical night will be held on Feb. 15 at Jaganmohan Palace auditorium from 5 pm to 8.30 pm. Entry is Free.

Aakanksha brings together individuals from different walks of life, who are connected by a common passion for music. The singers are Dr. Suneetha Ramakrishna, Ashwin Atri, N.M. Chaluvaraj, Jyothi Harish, Radha Ramgopal, Ramya Ashok, Santosh Nair and R. Srinivas.

They will present a musical tribute that celebrates the extraordinary contributions of National Award-winning legends whose voices have touched millions of hearts across the globe.

From romantic hits to heart-wrenching numbers to foot-tapping tracks, Aakanksha's gifted singers recreate the magic of some of the iconic songs of Sonu and Shreya in Kannada and Hindi for an evening filled with nostalgia and emotion.

For details, contact Ashwin Atri on Mob: 97402-14676.

Mysore Race Club Chairman resigns

Mysuru, Feb. 13 (VNS)- K.N. Suresh Kumar, Chairman of Mysore Race Club (MRC) Limited, has resigned his office.

Suresh Kumar

This follows the MRC Managing Committees' decision to move a no confidence motion against him for allegedly favouring Jayachamarajendra Wadiyar Golf Club (JWGC) to construct golf huts in violation of the law.

Sources said, out of the 10 members in the Managing Committee, six of them had signed the no confidence motion. However, Suresh Kumar tendered his resignation as the Chairman before the motion could be tabled in the meeting.

Suresh Kumar, in his letter to MRC members, has tried to clarify about his stand with respect to construction of golf huts and has added that he was giving regular updates about the measures taken by him to stop the construction of golf huts at JWGC as the MRC Chairman.

"The Mysuru City Coproration (MCC) has been apprised about the PWD approval of the revised plan for the construction of golf huts in violation of existing laws. MCC has also been requested to demolish illegal construction that has been built violating the original plan and also to initiate action against officials responsible for the construction," he said.

Following Suresh Kumar's resignation, one of the stewards G. Venkatesh was appointed interim Chairman of MRC.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Mahesh Ballal Nidambur Bhojaraj, residing at No. 1243, Krishnamurthypuram, Mysuru, declare that my minor son was previously known as Ahan Ballal in his old passport. However, his Aadhaar Card and 10th-grade marks card list his name as Ahan Mahesh Ballal. Therefore, we wish to officially recognize his name as Ahan Mahesh Ballal going forward.
Sd/- Mahesh Ballal Nidambur Bhojaraj

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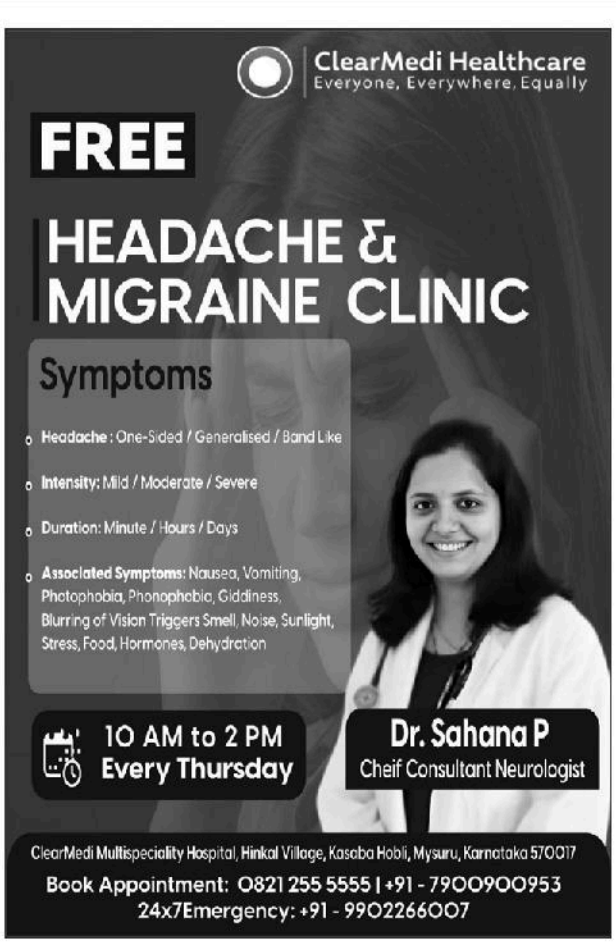
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NEWS BRIEFS

Progress review meeting on Feb. 15

The Kannada and Culture Department has organised a Kannada implementation progress review meeting at Deputy Commissioner's office in Siddarthanagar at 11 am on Feb. 15. Office-bearers of Kannada organisations, Kannada activists and members of public are appealed to take part in large numbers, according to a press release issued by the Department Assistant Director Dr. M.D. Sudarshan.

Recruitment exam training

Jnanabuthi, Mysuru, will be conducting free coaching classes for the written exam for recruitment of PCs and PSIs in the Police and Excise Departments. Interested aspirants can register their names at Jnanabuthi office located in Government High School and PU College premises on JLB Road in Lakshmipuram between 5.30 pm and 7.30 pm on Feb. 17. For details, contact Mob: 99728-30857 or 82967-88251 or 94481-17455, according to a press release.

Ayurveda clinic for migraine

The Government Ayurveda College and Hospital, Mysuru, has organised a free screening and treatment camp for migraine (headache) at its premises on New Sayyaji Rao Road in city from Feb. 13 to 28 between 9 am and 4 pm. For details, contact Mob: 87460-82373, according to a release.

Chhatrapati Shivaji Jayanti

City's Sri Shivaji Maharaj Jayantotsava Samiti, in association with the District Administration and Kannada and Culture Department, will celebrate Chhatrapati Shivaji Jayanti at Kalamandira on Hunsur Road on Feb. 19. Earlier, a grand procession will be taken out from Kote Anjaneyaswamy Temple premises in front of the Palace North Gate to Kalamandira at 9.30 am on Feb. 19.

Ph.D awardee

H.R. Sumathi has been awarded Ph.D in Computer and Information Sciences by Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU), Belagavi, for her thesis 'Analysing the Multi-partite Correlations and their Role in Quantum Channels' submitted under the guidance of Dr. C. Vidya Raj.

Lokayukta probe into MUDA 50:50 sites case

CM clean, officials dirty

Mysuru Lokayukta SP submits final report to Lokayukta headquarters for IGP's review

T.J. Udesh

Bengaluru, Feb. 13 (KMS& BCT)- Mysuru Lokayukta Police have cleared Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, his wife B.M. Parvathi and their family of any wrongdoing in the controversial Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) 50:50 site allotment case where Parvathi was allotted 14 sites in exchange for her 3.16-acre land at Kesare.

The anti-corruption watchdog has finalised its report, which has stated that any lapses in the case rest solely on the officials. The Lokayukta launched its investigation in September 2024 following a directive from the Special Court for Elected Representatives, Bengaluru.

Mysuru Lokayukta Superintendent of Police (SP) T.J. Udesh conducted an investigation and submitted a detailed report along with records to the Lokayukta headquarters in Bengaluru yesterday.

SP Udesh presented the report to the reviewing officer, who then

forwarded it to Lokayukta IGP A. Subramanyeshwara Rao. Following the submission, the IGP summoned the Investigating Officer in the evening for a detailed briefing.

Siddaramaiah is named Accused No. 1 in the Lokayukta's FIR. The case originates from an FIR filed in September 2024 under several IPC provisions, covering alleged offences spanning from 1968 to 2023.

The charges include violations of the Prohibition of Benami Property Transactions Act, 1988; the Karnataka Land Grabbing Prohibition Act, 2011; and accusations of cheating, forgery and criminal breach of trust.

It is expected that within a day or two, IGP Subramanyeshwara Rao will discuss the report with Director General of Police. Based on their deliberation, they will decide whether to initiate criminal proceedings against the errant officials or recommend a departmental inquiry. The final report will then be submitted to the Court.

Lapses in allocation process

The probe identified lapses in the allocation process and documented the methods of allocation and registration. Udesh provided records gathered from the Revenue Department, the MUDA and landowners.

The Lokayukta report indicates that MUDA officials and those at the Deputy Commissioner's Office failed to verify records properly and committed lapses while approving the land-use change.

The allegation is that Parvathi was allotted 14 prime sites in Vijayanagar in exchange for her land at Kesare, acquired by MUDA. The investigation has reportedly found no evidence implicating Siddaramaiah or his family in irregularities. However, the report highlights procedural lapses by MUDA officials during the site allocation process.

The investigation stemmed from a complaint by social activist Snehamayi Krishna, after which the Governor granted permission for prosecution against Siddaramaiah.

Challenging this, the Chief Minister approached the Court. Following hearings, the Karnataka High Court upheld the Governor's decision. Subsequently, the People's Representatives Court ordered a Lokayukta probe.

Governor approves Ordinance to curb microfinance excesses

Thaawarchand Gehlot

Bengaluru, Feb. 13 (Agencies)- Karnataka Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot has approved the Karnataka Micro Loan and Small Loan (Prevention of Coercive Actions) Ordinance, 2025, after receiving clarifications from the State Government.

The Ordinance, aimed at regulating microfinance operations and preventing coercive loan recovery practices, was signed on Wednesday.

The Chief Minister's Office (CMO) confirmed the development, stating that the Government submitted the Ordinance along with the explanations sought by the Governor.

The Ordinance was initially returned by the Governor on Feb. 7, due to concerns about its impact on legal loan recovery processes. He noted that while it seeks to waive loans and interest imposed by unlicensed and unregistered microfinance institutions, it may also interfere with the rights of legitimate lenders to recover dues through legal means.

Additionally, he highlighted potential violations of fundamental rights under Articles 19 and 32 of the Constitution, which protect an individual's access to legal remedies.

In response, a senior Home Department official stated, "The Government clarified that unlicensed and unregistered lenders charging excessive or penalty interest are acting unlawfully, and such loan practices are illegal. The Government and Courts do not entertain such loan recovery practices."

The Ordinance explicitly bans violent, coercive or harassing methods for loan recovery while allowing legitimate financial institutions to reclaim their dues through legal channels. "As per the Ordinance, using illegal methods for loan recovery, resorting to violence, applying pressure tactics or causing harassment is prohibited. The Ordinance does not prohibit the recovery of loans provided by registered institutions," the official added.

Governor Gehlot also raised concerns regarding the economic implications of the Ordinance, particularly the severity of penalties, which include imprisonment of up to 10 years and fines as high as Rs. 5 lakh.

He argued that such penalties are disproportionately harsh compared to existing laws governing similar offences. Furthermore, he noted that with the maximum loan amount under microfinance capped at Rs. 3 lakh, imposing a Rs. 5 lakh fine could contradict principles of natural justice.

In its response, the State Government clarified that the Ordinance does not impose penalties based on loan amounts but rather focuses on punitive measures against aggressive recovery tactics. "Therefore, the Government has not proposed any measures that go against natural justice," the official added.

Obituary

M.R. Krishna

Mysuru, Feb. 13- M.R. Krishna (71), partner of S. Boraiah and L. Ramaiah organisation at Santhepet and a resident of Ittigegud, passed away yesterday in city.

He leaves behind his wife, one son, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at the foot of Chamundi Hill this noon, according to family sources.

Savithramma

Hunsur: Savithramma (61), wife of retired Food Shirastedar Govindaraj and a resident of Maruthi Layout here, passed away yesterday in the town.

She leaves behind her husband, one son, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held in the family's farm land at Chilkunda village in the town today, according to family sources.

Maharani's College building staring at another collapse

Students demand swift demolition, reconstruction

Mysuru, Feb. 13 (SBD&DM)- With a section of the century-old Maharani's Women's Science College building recently collapsing and killing a construction worker, concerns have intensified over the safety of the structure.

Many now fear that this building has joined the list of Mysuru's heritage structures — such as the Devaraja Market and Lansdowne Building — that have remained in a dilapidated state for years.

Soon after the College building collapse, officials barricaded the site with a protective net to prevent public access, but this has done little to ease students' fears.

They worry that the remaining portion of the building could give way at any moment. Urging swift action, students have called on the college administration to demolish the entire structure and expedite the construction of a new building.

The 107-year-old building has seen two collapses — the first in October 2022, when a portion of the Chemistry Lab caved in, and the second, a fortnight ago, which resulted in the death of a construction worker. Fortunately, both incidents occurred when no students or staff were present, averting a larger tragedy.

Acknowledging the gravity of the situation, the Chief Minister, along with some Cabinet colleagues, officials and other elected representatives, visited the site. In November 2024, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had laid the foundation for a new Science Block, hostel building and other infrastructure at a total cost of Rs. 170 crore, with Rs. 54 crore allocated specifically for the Science Block.

The contract was awarded to Star Infrastructure Company, which began demolition by removing doors and windows on Jan. 27, 2025. However, a day later, tragedy struck when a section of the Audio-Visual Hall's roof collapsed during the evening, killing Saddam, a construction worker and a resident of Tanveer Sait Nagar. His body was recovered from the debris in the early hours of Jan. 29.

Following a complaint from Saddam's family, the jurisdictional Lakshmipuram Police registered a case against sub-contractor Dinesh and works maistry Fairoz for failing to implement safety measures during the demolition.

Since the incident, however, demolition has come to a standstill, heightening students' concerns. They fear further collapses unless the process is completed swiftly.

Meanwhile, MLA K. Harishgowda stated that demolition was halted after the accident, but the Deputy Commissioner is expected to issue an order to resume work soon. Once clearance is given, the contractor will proceed with the demolition, he added.

New operation theatre opens at PFA tomorrow

Mysuru, Feb. 13 (BCT)- The new operation theatre of People For Animals (PFA), Mysuru, will be inaugurated tomorrow (Feb. 14) by Trishikha Kumari Wadiyar and Divya Dinesh, Trustee, Ashraya Hastha Trust and animal welfare crusader.

This facility has been supported by Ashraya Hastha Trust, a leading advocate for animal welfare in India. The Trust has played a pivotal role in advancing animal welfare, advocacy, policy initiatives and awareness across the country.

In addition, Dr. D.L. Madhavi, a PFA Trustee based in USA, donated essential medical equipment while Kokila Ramesh Jain of Jeev Daya Jain Charity contributed two operation tables.

This initiative marks a significant step toward improving animal healthcare by enhancing surgical and treatment facilities, ensuring better medical care for injured and sick animals, and strengthening veterinary infrastructure in the region. For details, contact PFA Trustee Savitha Nagabhushan on Mob: 98456-54429.

MLA Tanveer Sait's brother Adil Sait passes away

Mysuru, Feb. 13- Adil Sait (74), son of former Minister late Azeez Sait and elder brother of Narasimharaja MLA Tanveer Sait, passed away this morning in city following a brief illness.

Adil Sait

A resident of Udayagiri, he leaves behind two sons and a host of relatives and friends.

Body has been kept at the residence of MLA Tanveer Sait in Udayagiri for the public to pay their last respects.

Namaz-e-Janaza will be held today at Masjid-e-Azam on Ashoka Road after Namaz-e-Asar (5 pm), followed by the burial at the Muslim Burial Grounds, according to family sources.

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Hon. President Hon. Secretary

Goods vehicle destroyed in fire

Mysuru, Feb. 13 (PM&KS)- A goods vehicle, carrying vegetables was destroyed in a fire reportedly caused by a short circuit near Hootagalli Signal Lights on Hunsur Road last evening.

The goods vehicle (KA-14-AA-3101) was carrying vegetables from Mysuru to Udupi when the driver noticed fire in the vehicle near Hootagalli Signal Lights. As soon as the driver and his assistant alighted and moved to a safe distance, fire engulfed the goods vehicle destroying it.

Personnel from Saraswathipuram Fire Station, who rushed to the spot along with the fire extinguishing vehicle, took more than an hour to douse the fire.

Saraswathipuram Fire Station Officer Nagaraj Urs, Assistant Station Officer D.M. Girish and staff Ravi, Kiran, Venkatesh and Dhruvaraj took part in the extinguishing operation.

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Printed by T.S. Gopinath and published by M. Govinde Gowda on behalf of Academy Newspapers Private Limited at Academy Newspapers Private Limited, 15-C, Industrial 'A' Layout, Bannimantap, Mysuru-570 015. Editor: M. Govinde Gowda. Phone: 2496520 / 2496521 / 2496522 / 2496523 / 2496526 / 2496527 / 2496528. City offices: Visveshwaraya Building, III Floor, K.R. CIRCLE, Mysuru-570 001, Phone : 2431774 and No. 114, D.Devaraj Urs Road, Mysuru-570 001, Phone : 2428695, E-mail address: voice@starofmysore.com, For Advertisements: ad@starofmysore.com, RNI Reg. No. 29894/78.

Swachhta Ambassadors to reclaim Cleanest City status for Mysuru

Mysuru, Feb. 13 (BLU&BCT)- With renewed determination to reclaim the top spot in the Swachh Survekshan rankings, the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) has appointed ambassadors to intensify public awareness efforts.

At an event held yesterday at Sri Jayachamaraja Wadiyar Hall, MCC Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) Somashekar announced this year's Swachh Survekshan ambassadors: Actress Amrita Iyengar, Mountaineer Dr. Usha Hegde, Social Media Influencer Dharmendra Kumar and Kho Kho World Cup Champion B. Chaithra. The ambassadors were also felicitated for their contributions.

The Swachh Survekshan, conducted annually by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, ranks cities based on cleanliness, waste management and environmental hygiene. Mysuru had secured the first position in 2015 and 2016 but has since fallen behind, with rankings dropping to 5th in 2017, 11th in 2021 and 23rd in 2023. Indore, Madhya Pradesh, has consistently dominated the rankings in recent years.

Swachh Survekshan ambassadors — Social media influencer Dharmendra Kumar, actress Amrita Iyengar, Kho Kho World Cup champion B. Chaithra and mountaineer Dr. Usha Hegde — who were felicitated during an event at MCC yesterday, are seen with MCC Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) J.S. Somashekar.

N. Raghavan, Proprietor of Raghulal and Company, receiving the Swachhata Champion commendation certificate from MCC Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) Somashekar at MCC premises yesterday. Picture right shows Dr. B.K. Ajaykumar Jain (second from right), District Resident Commissioner (Scouts) and Founder of Pragathi Pratishtana receiving the certificate.

New action plan

Determined to challenge Indore's reign, MCC has rolled out a comprehensive action plan, focusing on maintaining cleanliness, efficient waste segregation and promoting recycling. The Swachh Survekshan 2024 is set to take place on Feb. 15 and MCC is mobilising efforts to improve Mysuru's ranking.

To boost public participation, a poster featuring a QR code for online voting has been released. MCC Commissioner Sheikh Tanveer Asif, addressing the event via video conference, urged residents to play an active role in the city's cleanliness mission.

"Mysuru has been ranked the cleanest city twice, but we have struggled to reclaim the top position. Citizens must segregate waste properly and ensure it reaches sanitation workers. A cleaner Mysuru is only possible through collective effort," he stated.

Somashekar reinforced the commitment to securing the top rank, highlighting the relentless efforts of sanitation workers. "Teams are working tirelessly from morning till afternoon and officials have been assigned to monitor progress. We are confident of achieving our goal," he affirmed.

With the Swachh Survekshan just days away, MCC's intensified efforts and public participation will determine whether Mysuru can regain its lost glory as India's cleanest city.

Greening Mysuru: Swachhata champions honoured

N. Raghavan, proprietor of Raghulal and Company, was recognised for his relentless efforts in enhancing Mysuru's greenery, along with seven other Swachhata (cleanliness) Champions.

Since initiating his tree-planting drive in 2010, Raghavan has planted 1,07,384 trees and provided 1,36,400 iron and bamboo guards for their protection. His contributions extend beyond planting, as he also ensures the trees are watered during summer.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, Raghavan emphasised his commitment to preserving greenery for future generations. "Our elders blessed us with lush surroundings, but we've destroyed it. Instead of passing the responsibility to other organisations or NGOs, I took it upon myself, and I'm here today. This is an ongoing effort. I believe in 'just do it' — there's no point in blaming others," he said.

Dr. B.K. Ajaykumar Jain, District Resident Commissioner (Scouts) and founder of Pragathi Pratishtana, was also recognised for his outstanding contributions to cleanliness. He said that the recognition motivates him and his team to continue their work for nature, the environment, and cleanliness.

Since 2007, Ajaykumar Jain has rescued and treated 2,700 injured birds, releasing them back into their natural habitat. He has led Pragathi Pratishtana since 2013. "We launched a cleanliness campaign targeting children, focusing on '*mane*' (home), '*shaale*' (school), and '*nagara*' (city), aiming to instil a mindset of cleanliness. So far, students from over 200 schools have participated in the campaign," he said.

Other Swachhata Champions honoured at the event included Leela Venkatesh, Dr. P.S. Madhusudan, Dr. M.S. Swapna, Syed Abdul Aziz and Amulya.

Daksha College hosts thought-provoking session on 'Climate Change'

Mysuru, Feb. 13- Daksha College, Mysuru, hosted a thought-provoking session titled 'Climate Change: Impact on Education and Health,' in collaboration with SVYM and Yi Mysuru Chapter, recently.

Over 120 students of Daksha College Degree students gathered to engage in one of the most pressing global challenges of our time.

The keynote speaker, Dr. Seetharam, Co-Founder of SVYM, led an engaging and interactive discussion on the far-reaching effects of climate change.

He highlighted the destructive impact of climate change on daily life, warning about its consequences for future generations. Dr. Seetharam also delved into how changing pre-monsoon rain patterns are affecting farmers and the shifting pollution cycle that poses significant health hazards.

He emphasised the disturbing ways in which pesticides are disrupting the food chain, contributing to the endangerment of species, and the deterioration of education systems due to environmental stress and health-related issues. In his address, Dr. Seetharam called for more than just the conventional "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle" approach to combating climate change.

Instead, he urged the audience to "Refuse and Respond" advocating for mindful consumption and responsible decision-making.

The session concluded with the Yi anthem, sparking a sense of responsibility among students to take small, meaningful steps to make a greater impact. Through such initiatives, Daksha College and Yi Mysuru continue to lead the charge in empowering youth to become change-makers for a sustainable future.

Udayagiri stone-pelting incident

Complaints, counter-complaints galore

Mysuru, Feb. 13 (PM&DM)- Even as the Police have intensified investigation into the Udayagiri violence case in which members of a community pelted stones at Udayagiri Police Station on Monday night following a social media post insulting the minority community, complaints and counter-complaints by leaders of both the ruling and Opposition parties in connection with the incident has continued.

On Tuesday, a day after the incident, KPCC Spokesperson M. Lakshmana lodged a complaint at Udayagiri Police Station accusing BJP and RSS members of being responsible for the violence.

Subsequently, BJP leaders on Wednesday filed a complaint at the City Police Commissioner's Office in Nazarbad, seeking legal action against Lakshmana for making baseless allegations against the BJP and the RSS, which were in no way connected with the incident.

Lakshmana, while speaking to media persons on Tuesday, had charged that BJP and RSS activists had resorted to stone pelting and vandalism.

Angered by the charge, the BJP legal team, responded by filing a counter-complaint at the City Police Commissioner's Office blaming Lakshmana of carrying out an utterly false propaganda.

The BJP legal team seen after filing a counter-complaint against KPCC Spokesperson at the City Police Commissioner's Office yesterday.

Maintaining that the RSS is a decades old organisation serving for the welfare of the society, the BJP strongly condemned Lakshmana's remarks and his complaint and urged the Police to initiate legal action against him (Lakshmana) for spreading raw lies, in order to save the ruling Congress from embarrassment.

The BJP Legal Cell office-bearers Nanjundaswamy, B.M. Santosh Kumar, H.K. Bhagya, B.N. Gangadharappa, Dakshina Murthy and others were present during the filing of the complaint.

Cong. condemns statement against Home Minister

Meanwhile, Congress leader H.A. Venkatesh has condemned the statements being made against Home Minister Dr. G. Parameshwara.

In a press statement, Venkatesh, who is also a former MPVL (Mysore Paints and Varnish Limited) Chairman, said that Home Minister Dr. Parameshwara has issued a statement saying that no one involved in Udayagiri violence will be spared and that the Congress Government would not allow anyone to take law into their hands. But several social media posts have been targeting Dr. Parameshwara accusing him of being soft towards the perpetrators of violence, which is not correct.

The Home Minister has issued repeated statements that action will be taken against those spreading lies in social media networks and WhatsApp groups and also against all those who indulged in Udayagiri violence, Venkatesh argued.

"The BJP must remember it is one of their party members who was responsible for the trouble as he posted a social media post that was highly critical of the minority community. BJP, instead of spreading lies, should join hands with the Government in bringing peace and harmony. I will appeal the Government to take action against those BJP leaders who are trying to disturb communal harmony and peace in the State," he noted.

Finance Minister tables Income Tax Bill

(Continued from page 1)

The Bill will then be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance, which will begin its consultation process.

Waqf Bill

Meanwhile, the Joint Parliamentary Committee's report on Waqf (Amendment) Bill was tabled in the Rajya Sabha this morning.

Opposition MPs staged walk out demanding the JPC report to be sent back alleging that dissent notes have been deleted from it.

Leader of Opposition, Mallikarjun Kharge claimed that the dissent remarks have been deleted from it. Calling it condemnable, anti-democratic, Kharge urged Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankar to reject the Waqf report and send it back.

The JPC panel, including Opposition and BJP MPs, submitted its report to LS Speaker Om Birla on January 30 and the committee had adopted the report on the draft legislation by a 15-11 majority vote.

BJP members insisted that the Bill, introduced in the Lok Sabha in August last year, seeks to bring modernity, transparency and accountability in the management of Waqf properties.

On the other hand, the Opposition termed it an attack on the Constitutional rights of the Muslim community and interference in the functioning of Waqf boards.

Simpler, shorter law

The Income Tax Bill, 2025, is 201 pages shorter than the current Act, with fewer provisos and explanations, making it easier to understand. The amended Income Tax Act of 1961 is 823 pages (as of 2024), while the new Income Tax Bill is streamlined to 622 pages.

New 'Tax Year' concept

The assessment year will now be called the tax year to reduce confusion. For new businesses, the tax year will begin from their establishment date.

Taxation clarity

The new Bill addresses the long-standing debate on Sections 44AD, 44AE, and 44ADA, a key concern for professionals. It clarifies profit computation by introducing the term "profit claimed to have been actually earned."

Trains to chug from Ashokapuram

(Continued from page 1)

Prathap Simha took to social media to celebrate the approval for the extension of eight train services from Ashokapuram. Residents of J.P. Nagar, Vidyaranyapuram and surrounding areas, including half of the Krishnaraja Assembly Constituency, had previously travelled to the City Railway Station for their train journeys. With this new extension, travel becomes more convenient for these areas.

Simha noted that auto fares to the City Railway Station often exceeded the price of train tickets themselves. Recognising this issue, efforts were made to develop Ashokapuram Railway Yard and begin passenger train services. After four years of persistent efforts and Central Government funding, the Station's development is now complete, the former MP noted.

"Thanks to the efforts of Minister Somanna and Krishnaraja MLA T.S. Srivatsa, eight trains will commence service from Ashokapuram Station on Feb. 16. Somanna will show the green flag at 5.30 pm on Feb. 15," he said.

Thanking everyone involved, Simha acknowledged that the development works he initiated during his time as MP were now being completed with the help of Minister Somanna. He also extended thanks to the current MP, Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar among others.

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I, **Jeevitha. M** W/o Muthuswamy K, 39 years residing at No.95 H.D. Kote Taluk, Padukote Post, Gandhinagara, Mysore District-571189, do hereby solemnly affirm and state on oath as follows.

1. That the deponent is permanent resident of the above said address.
2. That previously the name of deponent has been recorded as **Jeevitha R** (Old name) in all educational certificates, and after the marriage of the deponent with Muthuswamy K. the name of the deponent was changed as **Jeevitha. M** (New name) in place of my previous name i.e. **Jeevitha. R.**

— Jeevitha M.

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Notice is hereby given that **Rani. T.V.,** wife of Rajendra. R., and **Rajendra R.,** son of Raju R., are intending to purchase the schedule property from Pavithra wife of Venkatesh, who is the owner of the schedule property by availing loan from Wonder Home Finance Ltd., Mysuru and any person or persons claiming any title, right, or interest on the undermentioned property or any part thereof, is hereby required to communicate the same, with documentary evidence, to the office of undersigned within 7 days from the date of this publication.

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ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF Property No. 13, House No. 200 PID No. 152200403000121697 situated at Bogadi grama, Kasaba Hobli, Mysuru Taluk measuring East to West : 9.144 Meters and North to South 6.096 Meters. Bounded on East : Road, West : House of Vijayamma, North. Property No 201 and South Property No. 199.

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For further details please contact School Office or visit the School **website : www.dms.riemysore.ac.in**
Sd/- Headmaster

MYSORE TRAIN TIMINGS

FROM MYSURU RAILWAY STATION TOWARDS KSR BENGALURU

Train No.	From Station	To Station	Mysuru Departure	Bengaluru Arrival	Days of Service
16586	Murudeshwar	KSR Bengaluru	3.45 am	6.15 am	Daily
16217	Mysuru	Shirdi	5.00 am	7.30 am	Monday
12610	Mysuru	Chennai	5.15 am	7.55 am	Daily
17326	Mysuru	Belagavi	5.40 am	8.40 am	Daily
20663	Mysuru	MGR Chennai	6.00 am	7.45 am	Daily Except Thur Vande Bharat
66554	Mysuru	Bengaluru	6.10 am	9.15 am	Daily
16215	Mysuru	Bengaluru	6.45 am	9.35 am	Daily
22687	Mysuru	Varanasi	7.30 am	9.55 am	Tue & Thu
20623	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	8.20 am	10.50 am	Daily
56281	Chamarajanagara	KSR Bengaluru	9.05 am	1.05 pm	Daily Passenger
19668	Mysuru	Udaipur	10.05 am	12.15 pm	Thu [Humsafar Exp]
12975	Mysuru	Jaipur	10.30 am	12.45 pm	Thu & Sat
12578	Mysuru	Darbhanga	10.30 am	1.35 pm	Friday
12613	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	11.30 am	2.00 pm	Daily
16315	Mysuru	Kochuveli	12.45 pm	4.25 pm	Daily
20608	Mysuru	MGR Chennai	1.05 pm	2.45 pm	Daily Except Wed Vande Bharat
17307	Mysuru	Bagalkot	1.25 pm	4.30 pm	Daily
66552	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	1.45 pm	5.00 pm	Daily Passenger
12008	Mysuru	MGR Chennai	2.15 pm	4.10 pm	Daily Except Thur
20659	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	2.50 pm	5.20 pm	Daily
12786	Mysuru	Kacheguda	3.15 pm	5.45 pm	Daily
16535	Mysuru	Pandharpur	3.45 pm	6.25 pm	Daily
16232	Mysuru	Mayiladuturai	4.15 pm	6.50 pm	Daily
16219	Chamarajanagar	Tirupati	5.10 pm	8.10 pm	Daily
16236	Mysuru	Tuticorin	6.20 pm	9.00 pm	Daily
06237	Mysuru	Manamadurai	6.35 pm	9.15 pm	Mon
16592	Mysuru	Hubballi	6.50 pm	9.40 pm	Daily
16210	Mysuru	Ajmer	7.10 pm	10.10 pm	Tue & Thu
16227	Mysuru	Talguppa	7.30 pm	10.30 pm	Daily
06526	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	7.50 pm	11.05 pm	Daily
22681	Mysuru	Chennai	8.15 pm	10.50 pm	Wednesday
16022	Mysuru	Chennai	9.00 pm	11.45 pm	Daily
06269	Mysuru	SMVT Baiyyappanahalli	9.50 pm	12.40 am	Daily
66580	Mysuru	KSR Bengaluru	10.25 pm	1.15 am	Daily
22135	Mysuru	Renigunta	11.10 pm	1.30 am	Friday
22818	Mysuru	Howrah	11.45 pm	1.55 am	Sunday

DEPARTING FROM KSR BENGALURU AND ARRIVING MYSURU

Train No.	From Station	To Station	Bengaluru Departure	Mysuru Arrival	Days of Service from Bengaluru
06270	SMVT Baiyyappanahalli	Mysuru	12.15 am	4.30 am	Daily
16218	Shirdi	Mysuru	12.55 am	3.35 am	Thursday
22817	Howrah	Mysuru	1.55 am	3.35 am	Sunday
66579	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	2.05 am	5.30 am	Daily Passenger
16021	Chennai	Mysuru	4.00 am	6.45 am	Daily
16220	Tirupati	Chamarajanagar	4.30 am	7.10 am	Daily
16228	Talguppa	Mysuru	5.05 am	8.20 am	Daily
22682	Chennai	Mysuru	5.20 am	7.45 am	Friday
16231	Mayiladuturai	Mysuru	5.40 am	8.35 am	Daily
16591	Hubballi	Mysuru	6.00 am	8.55 am	Daily
16235	Tuticorin	Mysuru	6.15 am	9.30 am	Daily
12785	Kacheguda	Mysuru	6.30 am	10.20 am	Daily
16536	Solapur	Mysuru	7.50 am	10.45 am	Daily
17308	Bagalkot	Mysuru	8.10 am	12.00 pm	Daily
16316	Kochuveli	Mysuru	8.30 am	11.15 am	Daily
66551	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	9.15 am	1.30 pm	Daily Passenger
20607	MGR Chennai	Mysuru	10.05 am	12.20 pm	Daily Except Wed Vande Bharat
12007	MGR Chennai	Mysuru	10.35 am	1.00 pm	Daily Except Thur
20660	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	11.30 am	2.00 pm	Daily
12976	Jaipur	Mysuru	1.00 pm	4.00 pm	Wed & Fri
19667	Udaipur	Mysuru	1.25 pm	4.40 pm	Wed [Humsafar Exp]
20624	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	1.50 pm	4.20 pm	Daily
12614	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	3.15 pm	5.35 pm	Daily
06525	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	4.45 pm	7.40 pm	Daily Passenger
56282	KSR Bengaluru	Chamarajanagar	3.35 pm	6.35 pm	Daily Passenger
12577	Darbhanga	Mysuru	5.00 pm	8.00 pm	Thursday
17325	Belagavi	Mysuru	5.35 pm	8.45 pm	Daily
16216	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	6.15 pm	9.05 pm	Daily
22688	Varanasi	Mysuru	6.30 pm	10.00 pm	Mon & Sat
66553	KSR Bengaluru	Mysuru	7.00 pm	10.15 pm	Daily
12609	Chennai	Mysuru	8.00 pm	10.50 pm	Daily
16585	KSR Bengaluru	Mangaluru	8.25 pm	11.20 pm	Daily Except Friday
20664	MGR Chennai	Mysuru	9.30 pm	11.30 pm	Daily Except Thur Vande Bharat
22136	Renigunta	Mysuru	11.10 pm	1.35 am	Saturday
16209	Ajmer	Mysuru	11.50 pm	2.25 am	Tue & Sun

TOWARDS HASSAN, ARSIKERE, SHIVAMOGGA, DAVANGERE, HAVERI, HUBBALLI, DADAR, NEWDELHI & BACK

Train	From Station	To Station	Departure	Arrival	Days of Service
16206	Mysuru	Talguppa	6.00 am	1.25 pm	Daily
11036	Mysuru	Dadar	6.15 am	5.45 am (next day)	Sunday (Mysuru)
56266 (Exp)	Mysuru	Arsikere	6.30 am	10.25 am	Daily
16208	Mysuru	Yesvantpur	7.15 am	10.10 am (Hassan)	Daily
16225	Mysuru	Shivamogga	10.15 am	4.40 pm	Daily
16222	Mysuru	Talguppa	2.00 pm	11.00 pm	Daily
56268	Mysuru	Arsikere	5.45 pm	10.00 pm	Daily
12781	Mysuru	Hazrat Nizamuddin	7.30 pm (Fri)	6.45 pm (Sun)	Friday
17301	Mysuru	Belagavi	9.30 pm	9.00 am	Daily
16585	Mysuru	Murdeshwar	11.40 pm	12.55 am	Daily
17302	Belagavi	Mysuru	6.00 pm	5.55 am	Daily
06213	Arsikere	Mysuru	5.00 pm	9.25 am	Daily
16226	Shivamogga	Mysuru	11.15 am	5.05 pm	Daily
16207 (Exp)	Yesvantpur	Mysuru	4.45 pm (Hassan)	8.10 pm	Daily
56265	Arsikere	Mysuru	5.30 pm	9.15 pm	Daily
11035	Dadar	Mysuru	9.30 pm	10.00 pm (next day)	Thursday (Dadar)
16221	Talguppa	Mysuru	6.15 am	3.35 pm	Daily
16205	Talguppa	Mysuru	2.50 pm	10.30 pm	Daily
12782	Hazrat Nizamuddin	Mysuru	5.10 am (Mon)	2.20 am (Wed)	Monday
16586	Murdeshwar	Mysuru	2.10 pm	3.30 am	Daily

TOWARDS MYSURU TO CHAMARAJANAGAR AND BACK

Train	From Station	To Station	Departure	Arrival	Days of Service
56202	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	5.00 am	6.35 am	Daily Passenger
16220	Tirupati	Chamarajanagar	7.30 am (Mys)	9.20 am	Daily
56210	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	8.20 am	10.10 am	Daily Passenger
56206	Mysuru	Nanjangud	9.15 am	10.00 am	Daily
56204	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	11.45 am	1.30 pm	Daily
56208	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	3.45 pm	5.20 pm	Daily
56282	Mysuru	Chamarajanagar	6.40 pm	8.40 pm	Daily
56281	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	7.15 pm	9.00 pm	Daily
56205	Nanjangud	Mysuru	10.25 pm	11.15 pm	Daily
56207	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	10.40 pm	12.30 pm	Daily Passenger
16219	Chamarajanagar	Tirupati	3.30 pm	5.00 pm	Daily
56203	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	5.30 pm	7.20 pm	Daily
56209	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	8.50 pm	10.35 pm	Daily
56201	Chamarajanagar	Mysuru	9.45 pm	11.40 pm	DailyPassenger

Gandhi Shilp Bazaar at JSS Mysore Urban Haat from tomorrow

Mysuru, Feb. 13- Gandhi Shilpa Bazaar, the 145th Handicrafts Exhibition and Sale, will be held from Feb. 14 to 23 at JSS Mysore Urban Haat, Ring Road, Hebbal Industrial Area.

KGF MLA & Karnataka State Handicrafts Development Corporation (KSHDC) Ltd. Chairperson Dr. Roopakala M. Shashidhar will inaugurate the Bazaar tomorrow (Feb. 14) at 4 pm. Krishnaraja MLA T.S. Srivatsa will preside.

The expo-cum-sale will be open to public till Feb. 23 from 10.30 am to 9 pm.

The Office of the Development Commissioner for Handicrafts, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, has been consistently working as the national nodal agency by organising various programmes to develop handicrafts, design and welfare. Through numerous schemes, it aims to make the art of skilled craftsmen accessible to art lovers across the country. With this vision in mind, the Department is organising several events for the culture enthusiasts of Mysuru. So far, 144 successful fairs have been held under this initiative.

The Office of Development Commissioner for Handicrafts holds several fairs every year to provide direct market access to craftsmen. One such event is Gandhi Shilpa Bazaar where over 70 stalls will showcase a variety of hand-crafted products from more than 18 States, including National and State Award-winning craftsmen. It provides Mysuru's culture-loving public with access to a wide range of handicrafts and handloom products. Craftsmen will design new products based on customer preferences and market demand.

Products on display will include Wood Carving, Stone Sculptures, Brass Statues, Wood Inlay Art, Clay Pottery, Paper Crafts, Gemstone Jewellery; Cotton Weaving, Imitation Jewelllery, Wooden Artifacts, Batik, Kalamkari Paintings; Leather Goods, Artistic Leather Footwear, Channapatna Toys; Kutch Embroidery, Madhya Pradesh's Maheshwari and Chanderi Sarees; Odisha's Pattachitra, Silver Artifacts, Bamboo and Cane Works, Chicken Embroidery, Dry Flowers; Artistic Stone Sculptures, Punjab's Phulkari Fabrics and much more. This fair allows for direct communication and interaction between customers and producers, without intermediaries, thus fostering better relationships between the two.

Additionally, free stalls will be provided to the participating craftsmen. Travel allowances and daily stipends will also be provided by the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handicrafts.

This will be a great opportunity for Mysureans to appreciate and experience the artistry and craftsmanship from various regions of India.

St. Joseph's Central School, Yelwal, wins Challengers Cricket Cup Tournament

St. Joseph's Central School, Yelwal, emerged as the winners at the Challengers Cricket Cup Tournament held at Delhi Public School recently. H.G. Preetham was adjudged the Best Bowler. Preetham is also the Captain of the U-14 KSCA team. The team received the rolling trophy in the presence of Rev. Fr. Edward William Saldanha, Rev. Fr. Naveen Kumar, Treasurer, Sylvia Albuquerque, Principal, Gemma Christopher, Vice-Principal, Mary Leena, Head Mistress - Primary and the PT teachers.

Lakhs of devotees take holy dip at Triveni Sangama

Three-day Kumbha Mela at T. Narasipur concludes

Mysuru, Feb. 13 (MTY, SK& BS)- Lakhs of devotees took a holy dip at Triveni Sangama in T. Narasipur taluk in the district, as the three-day 13th Kumbha Mela concluded yesterday.

Social Welfare and District Minister Dr.H.C. Mahadevappa, took part in the valedictory session of the mega religious event, popular as Kumbha Mela of the South, near Sri Chowdeshwari Temple on Triveni Sangama Road.

In his address, Dr. Mahadevappa said that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had released adequate funds for the grand and meaningful celebration of Kumbha Mela, that is organised once in three years. The event was a grand success due to concerted efforts of officials and religious heads. There was a steady stream of devotees participating in the event and undertaking *Kumbha Snana* (holy dip), since the Kumbha Mela began on Feb. 10.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar had propagated that, it was essential to consider all men as equal. The *Punya Snana* (Holy Dip) won't be useful, if it doesn't cleanse the ills of the mind. There should be a change of mindset, inspiring one to bring reforms and build an egalitarian society, the main motive behind religious practices.

Unity in Diversity

"The qualitative stance symbolises pluralism, which otherwise would have been destroyed, but for the Constitution. The message of Saints and religious leaders is also interspersed with plurality. The Kumbha Mela has also dispatched a message, loud and clear, about unity in diversity, which serves as an inspiration for the people of the State to live in harmony," said Dr. Mahadevappa.

There should not be any scope for either politics in religious practices or vice-versa. The religious celebrations should lay emphasis on tolerance and harmony. Hence, the Constitution of India envisages 'Freedom of Religion,' giving equal priority to all religions. To realise the idea behind religious practices as advocated by the Constitution, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah led Government, has ensured freedom for all religious practices, he added.

The original inhabitants of the land were earlier worshipping river, hill, peak and tree, as there were no Gods, they came across. They idolised culture, which depicted our conduct, language, customs and tradition. So, the plurality which is considered as the core of the culture, should be preserved, said Dr. Mahadevappa.

Breaking the barrier...

Adichunchanagiri Mutt Seer Dr. Nirmalanandanatha Swamiji said, the Kumbha Mela was a witness to breaking the barrier of caste and creed, by taking a holy dip in the same river. It is true that, one shall wash his or her sins by taking a dip in water during Kumbha Mela.

However, it would be rendered waste, if one doesn't inculcate spiritual, religious and service oriented mindset. The religious practices should bring the changes within, the Seer added.

The youngsters, who are swayed over by modernity, cannot experience a wonderful life, if they are not aware of spiritual insights. Hence, Kumbha Mela, continues to be organised by our elders, that began in the year 1889 at the confluence of Rivers Kapila, Cauvery (Kaveri) and Spatika, in T. Narasipur.

At Prayagraj

"Maha Kumbh Mela is underway at Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh. We all have participated in the religious event, with several pilgrims from Karnataka also being a part of it. Those unable to travel to Prayagraj, can take part in the Kumbha Mela at T. Narasipur, which is considered as equally significant with the Maha Kumbh at Prayagrag," opined Dr. Nirmalanandanatha Swamiji.

The country will be good if the rivers, considered as lifeline, are healthy. In a way, Kumbh Mela sends a message on conserving the water bodies and create awareness among the people. Like how heart is vital for a human being, rivers are essential for the country. The rivers function like heart and hence the rivers should be kept clean, without polluting them. If the rivers are healthy, the country will also prosper, observed Dr. Nirmalanandanatha Swamiji.

Suttur Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji, Kaginele Mutt Seer Sri Shivananda Puri Swamiji, Kailasa Ashrama's Sri Jayendra Teertha Swamiji, Tiruchi Swamiji, Sri Ramakrishna Ashram's Swami Muktidanandaji, Junior Pontiff of Ganapathy Sachchidananda Ashram Datta Sri Vijayendra Teertha Swamiji and other religious heads were present.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) G. Lakshmikanth Reddy, Zilla Panchayat Chief Executive Officer (CEO) K.M. Gayathri, Superintendent of Police (SP) N. Vishnuvardhana, Assistant Commissioner K.R. Rakshit were present.

Devotees dare Police; break through barricades

Mysuru, Feb. 13 (MTY, SK &BS)- On the last day of the three-day Kumbha Mela at Triveni Sangama in T. Narasipur taluk in the district yesterday, there was a heavy rush of devotees, who broke the barricades at all the three bathing ghats, to take the holy dip.

The District Administration had set up three bathing ghats near Agasthyeshwara Temple, Gunja Narasimhaswamy Temple and Bhiksheshwara Temple at the banks of Triveni Sangama. The barricades were installed to prevent devotees from going till the middle of the river. However, with a large number of devotees descending on the Triveni Sangama, the Police had a tough time in managing the crowd, who broke through the barricades to take a holy dip in the river.

Apart from the bathing ghats, the devotees, who came in groups, were seen taking a dip along the course of the river. The Police and Fire and Emergency Services personnel were warning them about the safety measures, before taking them on the dinghy and drop them at the river bank.

Following the rush of devotees, the algae that had deposited in the bottom of the river had risen above, floating in water, changing the colour of the water. The devotees were seen reaching the sand dune in the middle of the river, by holding hands and returning to the bank, after taking a dip.

All the efforts made by the Police to prevent devotees from going till sand dune, went in vain. The enthusiastic devotees didn't pay any heed to the words of the Police.

Thousands of devotees had gathered on the steps of Agasthyeshwara Temple waiting for their turn to take the holy dip that was leading to a rush, with the heavy influx of devotees, forcing the Police to intervene and control the devotees by removing the barricades.

Traffic jams keep Cops on their toes

Mysuru, Feb. 13 (MTY, SK& BS)- Traffic jams were the order of the day at T. Narasipur town in the district yesterday, that hosted the three-day Kumbha Mela, at Triveni Sangama.

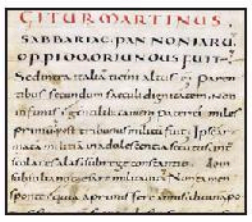
The number of devotees swelled yesterday, the last day of the religious event, as hordes of devotees came from Mysuru, Mandya, Hassan, Kodagu, Chamarajanagar and Bengaluru districts, apart from other States like Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh. Most of them came in their own vehicles, holding up the vehicular traffic on the road leading to Triveni Sangama.

It was common to see the vehicles stranded up to 2 to 3 kms, with a large number of vehicles coming from Mysuru, Nanjangud, Bannur, Malavalli, Chamarajanagar and Kollegal sides. The devotees were forced to park their vehicles at a distance of 2 kms from Triveni Sangama and walk till the river. The vehicles were lined up on the bridges built across Cauvery (Kaveri) and Kapila rivers.

As the parking arrangements made in the previous years of Kumbha Mela proved inadequate, the devotees had been advised to park their vehicles at Gargeshwari itself. The Police had also made temporary parking arrangements at the open fields including the vacant agricultural fields, to avoid traffic jams.

WORD OF THE DAY

Hagiography



Pronunciation: hag-ee-AH-gruh-fee (Noun)
Meaning: Hagiography is biography that idealises or idolises a person and their life.
Origin: The second part of hagiography is familiar: the combining form -graphy, which comes from the Greek verb graphein, meaning "to write," is found in biography and calligraphy (among many others) too. Hagio-, however, is more unusual; it comes from a Greek word that meant "holy, sacred" in Ancient Greek and more recently "saintly," by way of the term Hagiographa, another name for the Ketuvim, the third part of the Jewish Scriptures. English's hagiography can refer to biography of actual saints, but it is more typically applied to biography that treats ordinary human subjects as if they were saints.
Example: "The sisters' show can sometimes feel like hagiography; there is little discussion of Basquiat's demons or the aspects of his home life that may have been difficult." — Robin Pogrebin, The New York Times, Apr. 2022

THE ODD WORD

Pteridophobia

Fear of ferns.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Cut to the Chase

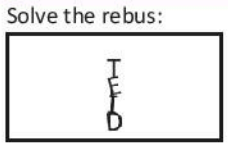
Meaning: When you use the expression 'Cut to the Chase' you mean to get to the point and leave out unnecessary details or preamble.
Origin: The phrase 'Cut to the Chase' originated in the American film industry, when many early movies ended in a chase scene. The first printed reference to the expression comes from script direction from the 1929 Hollywood Girl: "Jannings escapes...Cut to the chase."
Example: "Let me cut to the chase: Jennifer thinks you're mad at her!"

QUOTE BOX

My dream is of a place and a time where America will once again be seen as the last best hope of earth. **—Abraham Lincoln**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:



Answer: Balanced diet.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

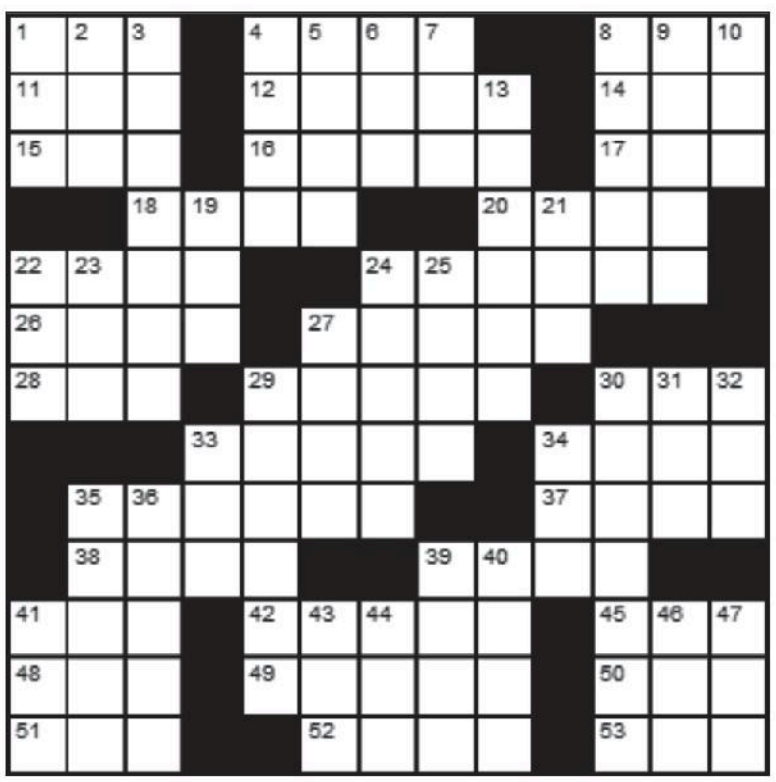
1 Resistance unit
4 651 in Roman numerals
8 BSE alternative for share traders
11 American Auto. Assoc.
12 Seeing or looking at?
14 Center starter
15 Pig-house
16 Contest or event
17 Coal scuttle
18 Nabokov novel
20 Europe's currency
22 Double reed
24 Cunning; crafty
26 Sacred or pious
27 The muse of lyric love poetry
28 Poetic homage
29 Slow musical tempo
30 Mrs in Marseille
33 Curriculum ____ :resume
34 Cries bitterly
35 Sudden fancy - "my wish" anagram?
37 Greek letters - "seat" changed?
38 To play roughly
39 Egyptian deity
41 Tune
42 Glowing coal
45 ____ into: corrode?
48 Lightning Sensor Sys.
49 Male duck
50 Howard Hughes studio
51 Native or inhabitant as a suffix
52 Cut, snicker - "seen" anagram?
53 U.S. Govt. Uncle ___

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

S	T	C	■	■	E	D	P	■	L	O	P	S
T	W	O	■	■	L	A	R	■	I	T	I	S
M	A	C	H	I	S	M	O	■	G	R	E	W
■	■	K	A	R	A	N	J	O	H	A	R	■
S	H	E	I	K	■	S	E	T	T	■	■	■
A	E	R	■	■	■	■	C	H	E	S	S	■
P	R	E	C	I	S	■	T	O	R	R	I	D
■	A	L	L	O	T	■	■	■	I	R	E	■
■	■	■	O	T	I	C	■	T	U	N	E	R
■	M	A	S	A	L	A	D	O	S	A	■	■
S	E	T	I	■	T	E	E	N	A	G	E	R
R	A	N	N	■	O	C	A	■	A	A	N	■
C	L	O	G	■	N	A	L	■	■	R	T	A

DOWN

1 Organisation of African States, acronym?
2 Stetson or bowler?
3 Centre-piece for folk dancing
4 A word meaning 'half'
5 Greenish blue
6 Illuminated
7 Incorporated, in short
8 India's first P.M.
9 Reel or bobbin
10 Ramzan for one, Bakri for another
13 Poor quarter
19 Marshal at Waterloo
21 E.T.'s ride
22 Gloating cry
23 Physique
24 Display, ordered arrangement
25 Fury
27 Consumes food
29 Hobbled
30 Female parents
31 Management deg.
32 Curvy letter by the sound of it?
33 Energy or vigour
34 Body of water
35 Hand joint
36 An equine
39 A type of dog - "keep" anagram?
40 Its main support is a trunk
41 Arabian Night's hero ___ Baba
43 Married woman sometimes
44 Prohibit
46 Alias initials
47 Male cat



SUDOKU

	9	2		4		3	8	
	5		8		6		4	
		1		2		7		
	2	8	7		4	6	3	
		7		8		4		
	7		5		3		6	
	6	5		9		1	7	

Answer to previous puzzle

9	2	4	7	6	3	8	1	5
1	8	5	4	2	9	7	3	6
7	6	3	1	5	8	2	9	4
4	9	6	3	7	1	5	8	2
2	3	8	9	4	5	6	7	1
5	7	1	2	8	6	9	4	3
3	4	7	6	9	2	1	5	8
6	5	9	8	1	4	3	2	7
8	1	2	5	3	7	4	6	9

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

DCV ZBQV UBF WBZYPRKH, DCV

PBHOVQ OBX ZRAVT UBF PKJV.

TODAY'S CLUE: D EQUALS T

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: Never part without loving words to think of during your absence. It may be that you will not meet again in life.

MOVIE LOVERS

NOW SHOWING - SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Gayathri Theatre** — **Ph: 2443568**
  Vidaamuyarchi (Ta) - 5 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** — **Mob: 99008-20093**
  Vidaamuyarchi (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** — **Ph: 2423554**
  Vidaamuyarchi (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Sangam Theatre** — **Ph: 2520494**
  Gajarama (K) - 4 Shows; *Vidaamuyarchi (Ta)* - 1 Show
- **Thibbadevi Theatre** — **Ph: 2452958**
  Daaku Maharaaj (H) - 4 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** — **Ph: 2521923**
  Unlock Raghava (K) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** — **Ph: 2420885**
  Talawar (K) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** — **Mob: 98454-14691**
  Bhagiratha (K) - 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** — **Ph: 2422871**
  Thandel (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** — **Mob: 98863-25207**
  Deva (H) - 3 Shows

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Vidaamuyarchi (Ta)	(S-1)	10 am, 1.05 pm, 4.10 pm 7.15 pm, 10.25 pm
Adhipatra (K)	(S-2)	10.10 am
Nodidavaru Enanthare (K)	(S-2)	1.15 pm
Rudra Garuda Purana (K)	(S-2)	4.10 pm
Badass Ravi Kumar (H)	(S-2)	7.10 pm
Naray Aneente Moonnaanmakkal (Ma)	(S-2)	10.10 pm
Mr. Rani (K)	(S-3)	10.30 am
Loveyapa (H)	(S-3)	1.15 pm, 7.05 pm, 10 pm
Bhagiratha (K)	(S-3)	4.10 pm
Unlock Raghava (K)	(S-4)	10.25 am
Sky Force (H)	(S-4)	1.20 pm
Thandel (Te)	(S-4)	4.15pm, 7.20pm, 10.25pm

MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Unlock Raghava (K)	(S-1)	11.05 am
Bhagiratha (K)	(S-1)	1.30 pm
Adhipatra (K)	(S-1)	4.05 pm
Sharanara Shakti (K)	(S-1)	6.55 pm
Forest (K)	(S-1)	9.10 pm; (S-4) 1.05 pm
Anamadheya Ashok Kumar (K)	(S-2)	10.50 am
Thandel (Te)	(S-2)	12.55 pm, 6.40 pm
	(S-4)	10.15 am, 9.30 pm
Vidaamuyarchi (Ta)	(S-2)	3.45 pm, 9.30 pm; (S-4) 6.30 pm
	(S-3)	10.20 am, 1.15 pm, 6.40 pm
Mr. Rani (K)	(S-3)	4.10 pm
Nodidavaru Enanthare (K)	(S-4)	3.50 pm

PVR CINEMAS — 4K Dolby 7.1

Nexus Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Mob: 8951357139

Interstellar (E)	:	9 am, 12.25 pm, 6.45 pm, 10.10 pm
Badass Ravi Kumar (H)	:	9.10 am, 4.30 pm, 10.20 pm
Thandel (Te)	:	9.25 am, 12.30 pm, 3.35, 6.40 pm, 9.45 pm
Vidaamuyarchi (Ta)	:	9.45 am, 12.55 pm, 7.20 pm, 10.30 pm
Sanam Teri Kasam (H)	:	10.25 am, 6.20 pm
Bhagiratha (K)	:	11 am
Dil To Pagal Hai (H)	:	12.05 pm
Loveyapa (H)	:	1.35 pm, 7.25 pm
Unlock Raghava (K)	:	1.50 pm
Sky Force (H)	:	3.40 pm
Choo Mantar (K)	:	3.50 pm
Deva (H)	:	4.05 pm
Gajarama (K)	:	4.30 pm
Mr. Rani (K)	:	7.15 pm
Padmaavat (H)	:	10 pm
Narayaneente Moonnanmakkal (Ma)	:	9.30 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 9901373210

Thandel (Te)	:	9.40 am, 1.15 pm, 4.20, 7.25, 10.30 pm
Vidaamuyarchi (Ta)	:	10.05 am, 3.40 pm, 6.20 pm, 9.45 pm
Forest (K)	:	11 am
Adhipatra (K)	:	11.55 am
Badass Ravi Kumar (H)	:	12.45 pm, 6.50 pm
Choo Mantar (K)	:	2 pm
Sanam Teri Kasam (H)	:	3.10 pm, 9.30 pm
Loveyapa (H)	:	4.55 pm, 10.10 pm
Anamadheya Ashok Kumar (K)	:	7.50 pm

Jathra Mahotsava concludes with Utsava, Uyyalotsava

Chief Priest H.S. Subramanya Shastri performing arati during Uyyalotsava at Sri Yellammamba Chandraguptamba Temple in Mandi Mohalla yesterday.

Mysuru, Feb. 13- As part of the 78th Jathra Mahotsava of Sri Yellammamba Chandraguptamba Temple in Mandi Mohalla, Sri Deviyavara Utsava was taken out on the main thoroughfares of the area yesterday.

It was followed by Uyyalotsava at the temple under the guidance of Chief Priest H.S. Subramanya Shastri.

Today (Feb. 13), Sri Satyanarayanaswamy Puja was held at the Temple in the morning and Sri Deviyaru will be brought down from the Uyyale at 7 pm followed by Mahamangalarati and Prasada Viniyoga.

INOX — LIVE the MOVIE

Mall of Mysore - Mob: 7829999465

Thandel (Te)	:	9.35 am, 12.40 pm, 7.05 pm, 10.10 pm
Vidaamuyarchi (Ta)	:	9.40 am, 12.50 pm, 4 pm, 7.10, 10.20 pm
Loveyapa (H)	:	10.30 am, 4.20 pm
Sanam Teri Kasam (H)	:	10.45 am, 3.55 pm, 7.20 pm, 10.30 pm
Badass Ravi Kumar (H)	:	1.25 pm, 7.15 pm
Mr. Rani (K)	:	1.55 pm
Unlock Raghava (K)	:	4.40 pm
Padmaavat (H)	:	10.10 pm

INOX Centro Mysore - Mob: 9606976757

Thandel (Te)	:	10 am, 1.05 pm, 4.10 pm 7.15 pm, 10.20 pm
Badass Ravi Kumar (H)	:	10.30 am, 4.20 pm
Vidaamuyarchi (Ta)	:	10.30 am, 1.40 pm 7.20 pm, 10.30 pm
Talwar (K)	:	11.15 am
Loveyapa (H)	:	1.25 pm, 7.15 pm
Bhagiratha (K)	:	2 pm
Narayaneente Moonnanmakkal (Ma)	:	4.50 pm
Anamadheya Ashok Kumar (K)	:	4.55 pm
Gajarama (K)	:	7.15 pm
Adhipatra (K)	:	10 pm
Oru Vadakkan Veeragadha (Ma)	:	10.10 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

EVENTS TODAY (FEB. 13)

- **Sarada Vilas College:** Valedictory of Seminar on 'Vartamanada Kannada Sahitya: Pratispadanegalu,' Music University Registrar (Evaluation) Prof. M.G. Manjunath delivers valedictory address, Sarada Vilas Educational Institutions President Dr. B.M. Subraya and Hon. Secretary R. Dinesh special invitees, Centenary Hall, College premises, Kirshnamurthypuram, **4.15 pm.**
- **Sri Rajarajeshwari Nilaya, K.R. Mohalla:** Sri Yellamma Thayi Ammanavara 21st Puja Mahotsava, special puja and prasada viniyoga, Sri Ammanavara Sri Rajarajeshwari Nilaya, K.R. Mohalla, **6 pm.**
- **Rangavalli:** Play 'Parameshi Prema Prasanga,' Mini Thetare, Kalamandira premises, **6.30 pm.**

EVENTS (FEB. 14) TOMORROW

- **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII):** Symposium on 'Inspiring Women to Live Fulfilling Lives,' Infosys, Mysuru, **9 am to 5 pm.**
- **Samvahana Publications, Mysuru:** Releasing of book 'Nobel Paritoshaka Puraskruta Tande-Makkala Jodigalu,' authored by Prof. P. Venkataramaiah, retd. VC of Kuvempu University; Mysore University VC Prof. N.K. Lokanath inaugurates, retd. Principal of Regional Institute of Education Prof. S.N. Prasad speaks about the book, retd. VC of Mysore University Prof. S.N. Hegde presides, Einstein auditorium, Department of Physics, Manasagangothri, **4 pm.**
- **JSS Mysore Urban Haat:** Inauguration of Gandhi Shilp Bazaar, exhibition-cum-sale of handicrafts and handloom products, JSS Mysore Urban Haat, Ring Road, Hebbal Industrial Area, **4 pm.**
- **Ame Organic:** Galentine's Carnival, Nexus Centre City Mall, **5 pm to 7 pm.**
- **N.R. Mohalla Sangeetha Sabha Charitable Trust:** Annual Music Festival of Saint Thyagaraja and Saint Purandaradasa Aradhana celebrations, Grand Music Recital by Vid. Kunnakudi M. Balamuralikrishna, accompanied by Vid. Mysore V. Srikanth on violin, Vid. Arjun Kumar on mridanga and Vid. Shamith S. Gowda on ghata, Sri Prasanna Mahaganapathi Temple, Shivaji Road, N.R. Mohalla, **6.15 pm.**

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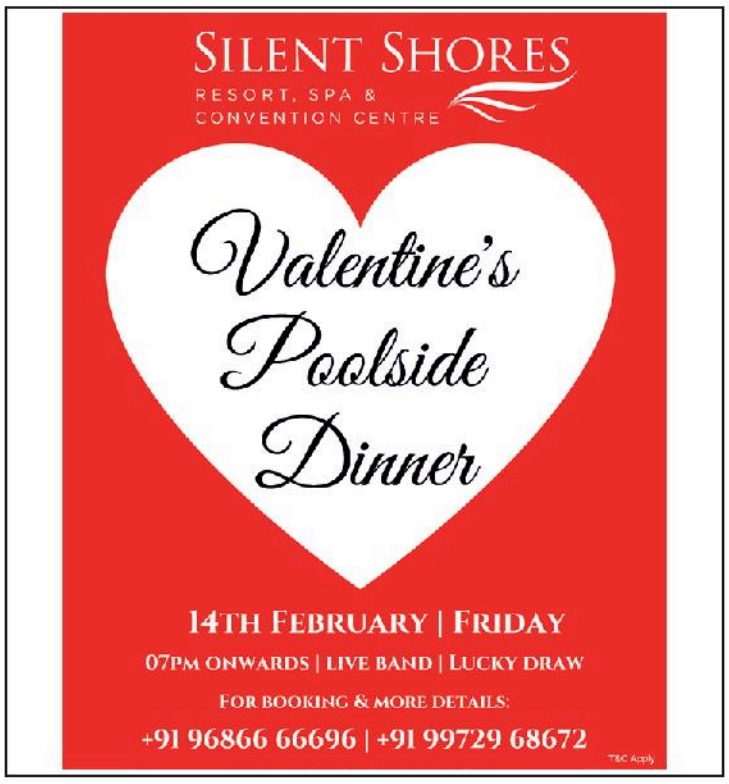
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